



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

October 2, 2001

Mr. Michael A. Schoch  
Regulatory/Environmental/Safety Manager  
Hilcorp Energy Company  
P. O. Box 61229  
Houston, TX 77208-1229

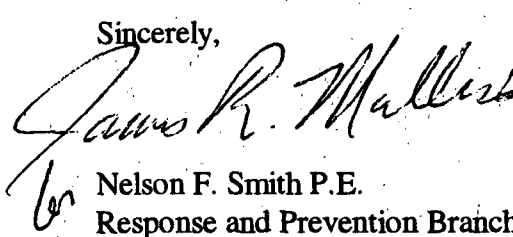
Re: Expedited Spill Settlement Agreement  
Docket No. CWA-06-2001-4548  
Hilcorp Energy Company  
Old Ocean Field Unit Well Flowline  
County Road 332, Brazoria County, Texas

Dear Mr. Schoch:

Enclosed for your records is a copy of the fully executed Complaint and Expedited Settlement Agreement for the oil spill-related violations found at the Hilcorp Energy Company Old Ocean Field Unit Well Flowline, County Road 332, Brazoria County, Texas.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to call me. I may be reached in Dallas at (214) 665-8489.

Sincerely,

  
Nelson F. Smith P.E.  
Response and Prevention Branch

Enclosure

9689296





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 6, 1445 ROSS AVENUE, DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733  
EXPEDITED SPILL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

DOCKET NO. CWA-06-2001- 4548

On January 3, 2001 Time                     

At: Hilcorp Energy Company, Old Ocean Field Unit Well Flowline, County Road 332 ditch, Brazoria County, Texas

(Respondent) discharged 11 barrels of oil in violation of Section 311(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act (the Act), as noted on the attached FINDINGS and ALLEGED VIOLATIONS FORM (Form), which is hereby incorporated by reference.

If the Respondent does not sign and return this Expedited Settlement as presented within 30 days of the date of its receipt, the proposed Expedited Settlement is withdrawn without prejudice to EPA's ability to file any other enforcement action for the violations identified in the Form.

The parties are authorized to enter into this Expedited Settlement under the authority vested in the Administrator of EPA by Section 311(b) (6) (B) (i) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b) (6) (B) (i), as amended by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, and by 40 CFR § 22.13(b), published at 64 Fed. Reg. 40137 on July 23, 1999. The parties enter into this Expedited Settlement in order to settle the civil violations described in the Form for a penalty of \$ 500.00. This settlement is subject to the following terms and conditions:

EPA finds the Respondent's conduct is subject to the discharge prohibition of Section 311(b)(3) of the Act, as described in that statute and further described by 40 CFR § 110.3. The Respondent admits he/she is subject to Section 311(b)(3) and that EPA has jurisdiction over the Respondent and the Respondent's conduct as described in the Form. Respondent does not contest the Findings, and waives any objections it may have to EPA's jurisdiction. Respondent consents to the assessment of the penalty stated above. Respondent certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that it has investigated the cause of the spill, it has cleaned up the spill pursuant to the federal requirements, and it has taken corrective actions that will prevent future spills. The Respondent also verifies that it has sent a certified check for \$ 500.00 payable to the "Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund" to: "Commander, National Pollution Funds Center United States Coast Guard Ballston Common Office Building Suite 1000 4200 Wilson Boulevard Arlington, Va. 22203." Respondent has noted on the penalty payment check "EPA" and the docket number of this case, "CWA-06-2001- 4548."

After this Expedited Settlement becomes effective, EPA will take no further action against the Respondent for the violations of Section 311(b)(3) of the Act described in the Form. However, EPA does not waive any rights to take any enforcement action for any other past, present, or future violations by the Respondent of Section 311(b)(3) of the Act or of any other federal statute or regulation. By its first signature, EPA ratifies the Findings and Alleged Violations set forth in the Form.

Upon signing and returning this Expedited Settlement to EPA, Respondent waives the opportunity for a hearing or appeal pursuant to Section 311 of the Act, and consents to EPA's approval of the Expedited Settlement without further notice.

This Expedited Settlement is binding on the parties signing below, and effective upon the Regional Administrator's signature.

APPROVED BY EPA:

Robert H. Gazda Date: 9/4/01  
Charles A. Gazda  
Chief, Response and Prevention Branch  
Superfund Division

APPROVED BY RESPONDENT:

Name (print): Michael Schoch  
Title (print): REG / ENV / SAFETY MANAGER  
M. Sch Date 9/14/01  
Signature

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Gregg A. Cooke Date 9/28/01  
Regional Administrator  
5/10/01

OREREV.11/18/99 R6REV

REGIONAL HEARING CLERK  
EPA REGION VI  
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FILED